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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/551,871	04/18/2000	Kazunari Yoshida	0020-4699P	2420

7590                    01/22/2003

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[REDACTED]  
EXAMINER

HUNTER, ALVIN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3711	

DATE MAILED: 01/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

***Response to Reply Brief***

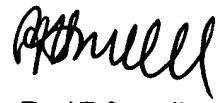
In Supplemental Reply Brief filed November 15, 2002 is noted, but is however moot inasmuch as prosecution was reopened without making a rejection based upon U.S. Pat No. 6045459. The reply brief is not a proper response to the outstanding Office Action mailed November 1, 2002. A proper response to the outstanding office action remains due on or before February 15, 2003.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin A. Hunter whose telephone number is 703-306-5693. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 4:00PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Sewell, can be reached on (703) 308-2126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-7768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.



Paul T. Sewell  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
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